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DOCUMENT ID: 25376297

INQNO: DOC2D 00618875

TEL 005356 86 DOCNO:

PRODUCER: VIENNA SOURCE: STATE DOCTYPE: IN

19860409 DOR:

TOR: 100456

DOCPREC: R

ORIGDATE: 198604091323 MHFNO: 86 0496475

DOCCLASS: U

HEADER OO RUEAIIB

ZNR UUUUU ZOC STATE ZZH

UTS8796 OO RUEHC DE RUEHVI #5356 0991324

ZNR UUUUU ZZH O 091323Z APR 86 FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9538

INFO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 3593

BT

CONTROLS UNCLAS VIENNA 05356

USIS

AGENCY FOR EU/SPRINGER; P/G

STATE FOR EUR/CE; PA

E.O. 12356: N/A

TEXT

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS GUIDANCE ON KURT WALDHEIM

- THE APRIL 9 NOON AUSTRIAN RADIO NEWS CARRIED THE FOLLOWING ITEM: "AFTER AUSTRIA AND ISRAEL, THE UNITED STATES HAS ALSO ASKED TO VIEW THE UN DOCUMENTS ON FORMER SECRETARY GENERAL KURT WALDHEIM. THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE HAD FELT SUFFICIENTLY INFORMED ON THE ISSUE UP TO NOW BY THE WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS, BUT NOW HAS ASKED TO SEE THE DOCUMENTS".
- OVER THE PAST SEVERAL DAYS, THE AUSTRIAN PUBLIC HAS BECOME INCREASINGLY AWARE OF U.S. INTEREST IN THIS AFFAIR. ON THE OTHER HAND, THERE IS WIDESPREAD IGNORANCE OF WHY VARIOUS U.S. ORGANIZATIONS ARE INVOLVED. FOR EXAMPLE, THE ROLE IN THIS MATTER OF THE U.S. CONGRESS AND THAT OF THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT ARE OFTEN CONFUSED. WE NEED GUIDANCE ON THE OVERALL ROLE OF THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT IN

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY CENTRAL INTELLIBENCE ABENCY SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3 B 2 B NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT DATE 2001 2007

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE A 2000

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THE WALDHEIM ISSUE, AND SPECIFICALLY ON THE RATIONALE FOR THE REQUEST TO VIEW THE UN DOCUMENTS. WE ALSO NEED GUIDANCE ON THE ACTIVITIES OF VARIOUS MEMBERS OF CONGRESS OVER THE PAST SEVERAL DAYS.

3. IN GENERAL, WE ARE RESPONDING TO INQUIRIES BY SAYING THAT THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT HAS A PROPRIETARY INTEREST IN THE WALDHEIM MATTER BECAUSE IT MUST REVIEW ELIGIBILITY TO ENTER THE U.S. OF PERSONS WHO MAY BE AFFECTED BY THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 212(A)(33) OF THE IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT, WHICH REFERS TO PERSONS WHO PERSECUTED OTHERS DURING THE NAZI ERA. THE ROLE OF CONGRESS IS THAT OF OVERSIGHT OF THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT IN SUCH MATTERS, WE ARE SAYING. SUCH RESPONSES DO NOT ADDRESS LOCAL CONCERNS THAT THE CONGRESS OF THE U.S., FOR INSTANCE, APPEARS TO BE INSERTING ITSELF INTO A MATTER OVER WHICH IT SHOULD HAVE LITTLE IF ANY JURISDICTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY. KOHL END OF MESSAGE